

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

825

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Golden Historic District

other names/site number Golden Ghost Town; Goldenville

2. Location

street & number 3482 Coyote Creek Road  
publication

N/A not for

city or town Wolf Creek

N/A vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Josephine code 033 zip code 97497

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets    does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant    nationally X statewide    locally. (    See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James Hamrick  
Signature of certifying official /Deputy SHPO

April 30, 2002  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property    meets    does not meet the National Register criteria. (    See continuation sheet for additional comments)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- ☐ I, hereby certify that this property is:
- ☒ entered in the National Register
- ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the National Register
- ☐ See continuation sheet .
- ☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
- ☐ removed from the National Register
- ☐ other (explain):

Edson H. Ball 7/25/02

for  
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

## 5. Classification

### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private  
☒ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

### Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)  
☒ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

### Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	1	buildings
2		sites
		structures
		objects
6	1	Total

### Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY/EXTRACTION; extractive facility,  
hydraulic gold mining  
DOMESTIC; village site; mining settlement

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

LANDSCAPE; conservation area/ wetland habitat  
RECREATION & CULTURE; outdoor recreation  
RECREATION & CULTURE; museum/ historic site

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/ LATE 19TH C./vernacular  
LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne/vernacular

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation EARTH, STONE, WOOD  
walls WOOD; weatherboard  
roof WOOD; shake  
ASPHALT; shingles  
METAL; corrugated  
other

## Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

\*Please see attached continuation sheets.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:**   7   **Page:**   1  

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

---

**Introduction**

The Golden Historic District is significant under Criterion A as one of Oregon's most undisturbed turn-of-the-century rural mining settlements. The Golden Historic District includes the remains of the historic Golden town site as well as the adjacent mining site, which was the main impetus for the establishment of the community. As a result of the abandonment as a settlement in early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the district retains notable integrity of setting, association, feeling, and design, and is an example of one of the most intact towns adjacent to a mining site in Oregon. Collectively, the town and mining site provide an ideal context to relate the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century mining experience that shaped the history of Oregon and much of the West.

**Setting**

The Golden Historic District is located in Section 19 of Township 33 South, Range 5 West of the Willamette Meridian, in the northeast corner of Josephine County, Oregon. The easternmost edge of the district crosses into Sections 20 and 29 of the same township and range. The district is located three miles east of the unincorporated community of Wolf Creek and Interstate 5. It is situated along Coyote Creek, a tributary to Wolf Creek. With the exception of the Golden town site, the district is centered between Coyote Creek and Coyote Creek Road.

The Golden town site is located north of Coyote Creek Road. Roughly five acres in size, the town site slopes gently to the south to the mining site. The four historic buildings are aligned along the north side of the road and serve as the focal point of the district. South of Coyote Creek Road, the topography abruptly drops approximately 25 feet as a consequence of hydraulic mining. The historic mining site extends from the base of this drop approximately 1000 feet across the Coyote Creek valley to the opposite creek bank. Steep, timbered hills rise immediately south of the creek and surround the entire district. The altered valley bottom, widened and flattened by extensive mining, extends for miles to the east and west. Over 93 acres are included in the proposed historic district.

**The Town Site**

William Ruble and his wife Ruth established Golden with their sons Bill and Schuyler as part of their family mining enterprise. The family relocated from Salem and together with community members, they constructed the four structures now remaining at Golden with locally milled materials. The earliest of these structures dates to 1892 and the latest to 1904. With the possible exception of the Golden Church, the buildings are vernacular in the truest sense of the word, lacking architectural features aspiring to any particular style.

Approximately five acres in size (see map), the town site includes four standing buildings, and a number of other landscape features, such as roadways, an orchard and mining digs, that relate the period of significance. Four contributing resources are included within the town site boundary. These include the William N. Ruble House, Golden Church, Grain Shed, and the Bennett Store/Post Office. Existing historic buildings line and face Coyote Creek Road.

The Golden town site possesses a number of features that relate its historic period of development independent of the contributing buildings. The town site is situated in a clearing, which is in marked

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** 7 **Page:** 2

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

contrast to the mining site, adjoining properties, and surrounding hills. The site includes remnants of a fruit orchard planted from nursery stock transported by Ruble from his nursery near Salem in the 1890's.<sup>1</sup> The clearing and remnants of the Ruble orchard are also visible north of the district, in the southern portion of the adjoining property. Coyote Creek Road roughly conforms to the road created in the mid-1890's. However, the current roadway deviates from the original west of the Ruble House. The gravel drive between the Bennett Store and the Golden Grain Shed dates to the mid-1890's, around the same time that Coyote Creek Road and the Schuyler Ruble residence were constructed. The Ruble's unlined well is covered and surrounded by dense brush northeast of the Ruble House. Other noteworthy features include the small-scale excavations evident in the northeast corner of the project site near Robinson Gulch. Anecdotal reports suggest that these areas correspond with mining activity that predates the historic period.

Non-contributing resources within the town site include a compatible 1930's era barn. Outhouses and other small outbuildings and minor features are not included. The barn is a wood structure compatible in form, volume, and character with contributing buildings.

As a whole, the town site presents a landscape that stands in marked contrast to the surrounding area. It provides integral context to the mining site, as well as the feeling, setting, location, and design characterizing the community of Golden. The town retains integrity of setting, location, design and feeling to relate its significance as a turn-of-the century gold mining community, though it bears evidence of natural change and human modification following the historic period.

### **The Mining Site**

The Golden mining site is located in the Coyote Creek valley north of the creek. As a result of placer mining, which was initially sluice box mining and then hydraulic mining, the flat valley bottom is nearly twenty-five feet below Golden.<sup>2</sup> This is a visual reminder and testament to the scope of the industry. In addition to the striking topography, the mining site exhibits a number of other noteworthy features. A network of mining tailings, dating to and possibly before the historic period of significance, are evident immediately north of Coyote Creek, in the western portion of the mining site.<sup>3</sup>

The extensive piles of tailings, composed of larger than average materials, are the noteworthy result of the Ruble Elevator. The Ruble Rock Elevator and Separator were constructed from wood and designed to facilitate moving larger materials with hydraulic pressure. The Ruble Elevator featured a screen and was designed to mine and stack tailings with one hydraulic Giant.<sup>4</sup> Designed on site,

---

<sup>1</sup> There are 5-10 remaining fruit trees.

<sup>2</sup> Sluice box mining is accomplished by placing a wooden trough in the stream lengthwise so that water runs through it. Wings are usually attached to the upstream end to collect and channel water. The trough has riffles where heavier materials settle out. It requires substantial manpower to continuously shovel paydirt into the upstream end and adequate stream water is needed. Sluice box mining was not suitable for moving larger materials and gave way to hydraulic mining.

<sup>3</sup> The tailings are as yet undocumented, but both Larry McLane and Alan Spencer (NRCS Regional Cultural Resource Specialist) attest that they date to the late 19<sup>th</sup>, early 20<sup>th</sup> century and include both elevator-stacked and hand-stacked tailings.

<sup>4</sup> Also known as a 'monitor', the hydraulic giant is a mechanical device that uses a pressurized stream of water to direct gold-bearing soil, gravel and larger material into a sluice box or elevator for extraction. Water was brought to the giant through ditches to a head-gate where it entered pipes. The

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** 7 **Page:** 3

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

this innovation addressed the need to push the larger materials through the elevator and stack them while allowing the heavier fine materials to fall out through the screens. This speeded up the process considerably; without the elevator, the giant was first used to get the material through a sluice box and then it had to be repositioned in order to stack the larger materials and boulders.

Mature deciduous and coniferous trees, mostly Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, Pacific Madrone, and California Black oak grow along the creek bank and tailings. Several larger piles of tailings are now covered with conifers. An undocumented mining tunnel has been reported in the vicinity of the hydraulic cut under the town site. The tunnel entrance is reported to be south of the church and likely predates the historic period of significance.

In the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the hills north of Coyote Creek sloped gently to the creek's edge and the town consisted of buildings on both sides of the road (McLane, 1995). The earth between the town site and Coyote Creek was washed away by years of hydraulic mining during and following the historic period; several buildings south of Coyote Creek Road were moved or destroyed to make way for mining. Community members remaining at Golden after the close of the post office in 1920 continued to mine the valley for several decades. The current mining cut, visible south of Coyote Creek Road, reflects the extent of mining activity after the close of the historic period. The cut is a natural extension of mining activity during the period of significance, and in all likelihood imitates the cut at the close of the historic period. The existing Coyote Creek Road was constructed to replace a road, which was undermined by hydraulic gold mining at the onset of the secondary period of significance. The proximity of the cut to the road and its extension into the historic town site aid in depicting mining practices and conveying their relationship with community life during the historic period.

Soil that once covered the mining site has long been washed away by hydraulic giants, exposing bedrock and leaving mining debris. Hydraulic mining in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was inefficient in that only course gold and nuggets were recovered. By the late 1980's, much of this debris had been reworked numerous times to retrieve the fine gold. Josephine County maintains an unimproved roadway and gravel pile in the western portion of the mining site. These public works facilities generally blend in with the surrounding mining debris covering the site and convey the continuing value of mining, although they are not necessarily compatible features.

The rough landscape left behind after mining acted as catchment basins, slowing the runoff of surface water and sometimes holding water throughout the year. These moist areas attracted flora and fauna absent in other areas of the mining site and fostered ecological improvement. Since 1993, the site has been the focus of a restoration project. The project has created a network of wetlands and small reservoirs extending throughout the valley floor. The project is ongoing and involves establishing vegetation, making trails, creating interpretive areas and the construction of a small, primitive amphitheater to overlook the mining site and valley. The restoration activities have

---

*pipes gradually narrowed to feed the giant, where a combination of drop in elevation and smaller nozzle aperture created a highly pressurized stream. The giant essentially functioned like a fire hose.*

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** 7 **Page:** 4

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

not diminished the integrity nor have they significantly impacted the historic mining tailings. The historic feeling, setting, topography, volume, and integrity are not diminished by the natural and non-manicured effect that is created by the restoration work. Rather, the restoration work and the addition of the amphitheater and trails are compatible with the historic character of the site, and they enhance educational opportunities for visitors and improve physical access to the site.

**The Ruble House**

William N. Ruble, referred to as "Bill", son of William Ruble, Sr., constructed this residence in 1894. Shortly thereafter, his family moved from the Henry Gross residence farther up Coyote Creek into the house. Bill's parents also resided at the Ruble House when in Golden. The Ruble family ceased using the dwelling as a permanent residence in 1901. They returned to the residence between 1908 and 1910, before permanently relocating to Eugene. The family maintained their house until selling their holdings in 1911 to the Forsythe family. The Forsythe family continued to lease mining claims and the store grounds, and they remained in the Ruble House beyond the historic period.

The Ruble House is a one and one-half story vernacular dwelling, originally having a saltbox volume (see Plates 1, 2). The house sits on graded earth and is finished in board and batten siding. The roof consists of corrugated metal over wood shingles. The building had rudimentary electricity at some point in its history, but shows no evidence of indoor plumbing. Associated features include an unlined well northwest of the residence. It is not known whether the outhouse to the north of the well is original to the house.

The Ruble House has fallen into serious disrepair since it was abandoned in the latter part of the 20th century (Plate 2). The building is structurally unstable and is missing several elements. The north (rear) wall of the dwelling has been removed, exposing a markedly deteriorated interior. The front porch hood has been removed, as have all doors and windows. As an architectural feature, the condition of the building substantially diminishes its architectural integrity. However, the Ruble House is an integral element of the historic character of the district and is the most significant and last remaining domestic dwelling in Golden. Within the context of the significance of Golden in conveying southern Oregon's mining heritage, the building retains the integrity of association, location, and feeling for which it is significant.

**The Golden Church**

The Golden Church was completed in 1892 (see Plates 3, 4). Historically, the church was a focal point for Golden, and the interest in this building continues through contemporary times. The Golden Church was the first permanent building constructed on the Golden town site, and the most elaborate. Construction of the church was a community project. William Ruble, Sr., financed the construction, and his son Bill served as the primary carpenter.

The Golden Church is easily identified as a vernacular form, though its period of development and decorative details may also reflect Queen Anne influences. Rising from timber supports, the one-story, wood-frame building has a rectangular plan and gable volume. Two 4/4 double hung windows

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** 7 **Page:** 5

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

adorn the side elevations. Both the windows and the vast majority of window lites are original. A prominent belfry finished with diamond-shaped shingle motif projects from the façade elevation (Plate 5). Three stairs lead up to the entrance landing under a hipped porch and belfry. Double-leaf, four-panel, wooden doors (Plate 6) open into the church interior (Plate 7). The wood structure is finished with composition shingles, Dutch-lap siding and corner boards. A wood skirtboard projects below the siding to facilitate water run off. With the exception of the 1950's era replacement of the deteriorated front stairs, landing, and cedar-shake skirting, the exterior of the church is markedly unchanged.

The interior of the church has been modified, although not dramatically. It originally had tan colored wallpaper, oil wall lamps, a modest oak pulpit, green wrought iron lamp brackets, and wainscoting (see Plate 8). Today, only the wainscot and chair rail remains (Plate 7). The original wall covering has been replaced with burlap. Wood siding has been added to the interior wall behind the pulpit and ceiling. A metal wood stove has also been added, possibly replacing a cast iron stove. In addition, a raised platform has been added under the podium.

Two mature Douglas fir trees grow in front of the church. These trees were saplings in turn-of-the-century photographs, and serve as a temporal marker of the age of the building. A number of memorials are seen to the east of the church, none of them marking an actual gravesite. Two of the markers memorialize people that died in recent decades and were associated with the history of Golden. The wooden markers are fictional, created for a 1970's Gunsmoke episode (McLane, personal communication). Though they are not representative of the historic period and require interpretive attention, the 'cemetery' reflects the popularity, appeal, and lore that have become an element of the history of Golden since the early part of the 20th century.

The early construction and architectural detail of the Golden Church suggest that this building was central to the history of the settlement. The church has served as the icon for Golden and has been the feature in countless photographs, newspaper articles, magazines, and other publications throughout most of the 20th century. The presence of two religious congregations and the lack of a saloon have distinguished Golden from other mining communities of this period. The Golden Church possesses remarkable integrity and effectively relates its historic significance even though aspects of the condition are lacking.

**Golden Grain Shed**

The Golden Grain Shed is one of the four buildings comprising the town site (Plate 9). It is located between the Golden Church and Bennett Store. The shed is a vernacular, utilitarian building and dates to circa 1900. It is commonly referred to as the 'granary', but Golden was not known for its grain production and the building lacks the structural features associated with the storage of loose grain. The construction date and original use are not documented, but it is known to have been used for storage of sacked grain and other materials (such as tack) during the historic period. A blacksmith shop similar in style once stood west of the building, and a larger barn stood to the south. It is likely that the shed was originally part of this ensemble, rather than an auxiliary to the store.

The Golden Grain Shed has a rectangular plan and single-story, gable volume. The modest

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** 7 **Page:** 6

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

structure rests on loose rock footings and is finished in hewn vertical planks. The building has no windows and two entrances, each with a plank door. The Grain Shed represents an integral visual element of the Golden town site and is the sole remaining outbuilding dating to the historic period. Virtually unchanged, the shed retains very high integrity and effectively conveys the period of significance of the district.

**Bennett Store and Post Office**

The Bennett Store and Post Office is the easternmost remaining building of the town site (Plate 10). Columbus Bennett hired his nephew Ollie Macintosh to build the store in the early 1900's (McLane, 1995). The store was operating by December of 1904 and likely closed within a few years after the closure of the Post Office in 1920.

The Bennett Store and Post Office is a vernacular wood-frame building with a rectangular plan and saltbox volume. The building rests on a log post and rock base foundation. Available photographs indicate that the store was originally built on a square plan and was extended to the west a short time after construction. Myra McIntosh used the addition as living quarters while operating the store and post office.

The storefront is distinguished by its false front and projecting porch. Predominantly finished with board and batten siding, the store has a composition shingle roof. The storefront differs from the rest of the building and is finished with horizontal lap siding and wood shingles over the porch roof. The front entrance consists of double doors, each with a lower wood panel and upper lite. The original mail slots for the Post Office flank the entrance. The majority of the windows are three-over-three and double-hung. The original two-over-two window west of the front door has been replaced with a similar six-over-six light window. Additional modifications include a replacement porch on the rear elevation and a rebuilt façade, both constructed in the 1970's (McLane, personal communication). Unlike the original, the current porch is larger and supported by non-peeled log posts. Modifications are not substantial, and overall the store retains sufficient integrity in design, feeling, materials, and volume to effectively relate this period of significance.

Like many southern Oregon mining settlements, the community of Golden did not thrive after its rich mineral resources were extracted. Ironically, the unpopularity of the community that caused people to move elsewhere contributed to its future popularity as a ghost town. This popularity has helped Golden retain a notable integrity of setting, association, feeling, and design. Collectively, the town and mining site provide an ideal context to relate the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century mining experience that shaped the history of southern Oregon and much of the West. With its unique historic associations and physical features, the Golden District merits distinction as an outstanding example of an intact gold mining site and settlement in Oregon.



## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☒ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

### INDUSTRY

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

### Period of Significance

1881-1920

### Significant Dates

March, 1884

June 20, 1890

Fall 1890

March 22, 1920

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

William Ruble

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

See section #7

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing
- ☐ (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey (#\_\_)
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record (#\_\_)

- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Josephine Co. Courthouse

Josephine Co. Historical Society

### Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number: 8 Page: 1

Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon

**Introduction**

The Golden Historic District is eligible under Criterion A as one of the least disturbed gold mining sites and settlements in Oregon. The Golden Historic District is also eligible under Criterion B as the best resource associated with the Ruble family and their development and patenting of the Ruble Elevator. The district is a unique landscape, including some intact remains of the historic Golden town site as well as obvious evidence of the adjacent mining site, which spurred the community's establishment. The relationship between gold mining activity and early settlement preserved in the district is an outstanding example of an intact town and mining site. The unparalleled combination of attributes in the Golden Historic District provides an ideal context to relate the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century mining experience.

In addition to the significance of its holistic presentation of late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century mining activity and settlement, the district is also associated with noteworthy events, personalities, and innovations significant to mining history in Josephine County, southern Oregon, and beyond. The district represents the site most closely associated with the Ruble family mining operation, one of the more notorious and successful mining operations in southern Oregon. Specifically, the site is associated with the famed Kelly-Ruble riot, the creation, patent and success of the Ruble Rock Elevator, and the establishment of Golden. It is also associated with the broader context of placer and hydraulic gold mining along Coyote Creek. These associative values, in combination with the rich landscape, provide an ideal context to relate the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century mining experience that contributed to settlement of southern Oregon and much of the West.

**Context**

In many regards, the settlement of southern Oregon reflects the settlement patterns attributed to gold mining activity that erupted throughout the western U.S. in the decades following the California Gold Rush of 1849. During this time, would-be miners left distant states and countries intent on capitalizing on the widely reported, rich gold deposits.

A great number of these pioneer miners worked mining claims in southern Oregon. Their success created the wealth and interest that would facilitate Anglo-expansion and settlement into areas previously only associated with indigenous groups. Historians Brooks and Ramp comment on the contribution of gold mining in Oregon history:

*Gold mining was the primary reason for the settlement and early growth of northeastern and southwestern Oregon—the two regions where the principle deposits are found. Between 1850 and 1865, Oregon produced roughly 5.8 million fine ounces of gold and 5.4 million fine ounces of silver worth a total of \$210,000,000 at today's prices {1968}, and probably 60 percent of the gold was mined before 1900. (Brooks & Ramp, 1968, p. 3)*

Libbey, another mining historian adds:

*Gold mining was originally the mainstay of the economy in southern Oregon. It started settlements, built roads and schools, promoted local government, and established law and order. It was about the only source of new wealth and was a common means of earning a livelihood. (Libbey, in Brooks & Ramp, 1968, p. 3)*

The gold mining that started in the 1850's would foster the development of Golden. The mining

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** 8 **Page:** 2

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

---

trends along Coyote Creek were representative of the southern Oregon mining experience. Throughout the 1850's, southern Oregon's numerous streams became havens for gold prospectors and placer miners. During this time, miners occupied a large expanse of the Coyote Creek valley, then a remote part of Jackson County. By 1860, a road had been constructed along Coyote Creek to transport lumber for flumes, sluice boxes and goods for miners. Nearly 30 cabins, a saloon, and store occupied the upper reaches of Coyote Creek.

During the 1860's and early 1870's, many of the first generation of local miners drifted to Idaho and British Columbia. Although the mining was likely lucrative, summer droughts presented miners with many challenges which eventually sweetened the allure of higher returns elsewhere. A new wave of miners, predominantly male Chinese nationals, occupied the Coyote Creek valley throughout the 1860's. How many Chinese nationals took part in gold mining along the creek is a matter of debate. It has been reported that as many as 500 Chinese worked Coyote Creek at this time. However, a review of quitclaim deeds suggests the highest number was closer to fifty (McLane, 1995). By the 1870's, most of the Chinese had moved on to other areas and white miners had repurchased nearly all these mining rights, once again accounting for the majority of activity on Coyote Creek. Deed records show that in contrast to other areas where hostility and racism allowed whites to drive the Chinese away, those Chinese miners working in Coyote Creek elected to leave the area and successfully sold their claims.

Sluice box mining continued to be practiced for more than ten years after the first hydraulic giant was introduced along Coyote Creek circa 1871 (McLane, 1995). Mining along Coyote Creek remained active throughout the 1870's. From 1879 until after 1883, the regular stage running between Roseburg and Jacksonville made a special trip up Coyote Creek to serve the mining camps. During this time period, mining claims on Coyote Creek became the center of a costly legal battle and the most widely reported dispute in southern Oregon mining history. The dispute was resolved by the courts in favor of William Ruble, encouraging him to stay and establish the community of Golden.

Beginning in 1869, Harrison Kelly and his wife Maria began buying claims along Coyote Creek. During the same period, Kelly went into partnership with Orange Jacobs, a Jacksonville attorney. In 1872, the Jacobs and Kelly partnership surveyed, platted, and patented their claims. In the same year, Harrison Kelly was commissioned to captain a company of volunteers in the Modoc Indian Wars. In 1878, William Ruble and his son Walter purchased a large portion of the Jacobs and Kelly holdings and claims held by other miners along Coyote Creek. In the same year, Kelly challenged the legality of Ruble's ownership. The disputed area is included in the Golden Historic District as well as extending to other sites along Coyote Creek.

### **1881-1991 Initial Period of Significance**

#### **Kelly-Ruble Feud and the Establishment of the Ruble Mining Operation**

On November 14, 1881, the Jackson County Circuit Court issued a judgment in favor of Harrison Kelly against the Coyote Creek Gold & Silver Mining Company. William Ruble and

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number: 8 Page: 3

Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon

family were ordered to vacate the contested mining site by January of 1882.<sup>1</sup> This ruling is the first indication that the Ruble mining operation had begun, marking the onset of the period of significance of the district. The Kelly and Ruble claims were at the center of a lawsuit that dragged on for several years. The disputed claims were heavily mined which helped offset legal fees when either party was in possession. Period newspaper articles and gold shipment records suggest the mines were profitable for both parties during this period, though not necessarily sufficiently profitable after legal fees.

The dispute appeared to be resolved around the close of 1883 when the Oregon Supreme Court ruled in favor of William Ruble. However, Kelly supporters thought that the Supreme Court should have held over the lower court ruling. The *Oregon Sentinel* labeled the events that followed a "War in Jackson County." Circuit Court Judge Hannah ordered Ruble to vacate his claims. It was reported that J.G. Birdseye headed a posse to serve Ruble orders, but retreated after 18 to 20 men fired shots at Birdseye and his men. Birdseye later returned to Coyote Creek with more men and a warrant. Ultimately, 17 men, including William Ruble, were arrested and assessed bail at \$300 each.

In 1884, A.G. Walling commented:

*In Jackson County is the Coyote Creek Mining Company's claim, better known as the Kelly-Ruble location, which is now regarded as the richest mining ground in the County, and is the subject of an important lawsuit. (p.463)*

The dispute ended with an Oregon Supreme Court writ of restitution, again in favor of Ruble, in March of 1884. The Court's ruling came at a pivotal point in the history of Coyote Creek and Golden. The railroad that would pass through Wolf Creek and Grants Pass had been under construction throughout the 1880's. In 1886, Coyote Creek became part of Josephine County, and Grants Pass was established as the County seat. Prior to this, the Golden Historic District was in Jackson County and the western boundary of the district corresponded to the eastern boundary of Josephine County.

Following resolution of the Kelly-Ruble conflict, William Ruble purchased the claims Harrison Kelly had liquidated following the 1884 Oregon Supreme Court ruling. William Ruble and his two sons, Schuyler and Bill, invested much time mining the Coyote Creek valley while their families remained in the Eola Hills, near Salem. Though the claims were rich, the conditions presented formidable challenges. Larry McLane writes:

*It was proven before the Rubles came to Coyote Creek that the placer claims were very rich, but a major problem existed because there was very little fall (incline or descent) in the creek bed. When material, the ore bearing earth and rocks, was piped through the boxes, the tailings (gravel and rocks) would literally stop the operation until the boulders and gravel were removed by hand or by another giant; and then the piping was resumed. The Rubles wrestled with this problem for about five years until Schuyler and Bill successfully built an elevator to stack the tailings and keep the boxes clear. (McLane, 1995, p. 285)*

---

<sup>1</sup> The Ruth Ruble Placer Mining Claim does not represent the same territory disputed in the Kelly-Ruble feud, as documented in the 1983 Josephine County Cultural and Historical Inventory. It is true that William Ruble sold most or all of the disputed holdings to his son Walter, who later transferred ownership to Ruth Ruble. Period deed records indicate that the two properties are not the same, but do include territory in common.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number: 8 Page: 4

Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon

The Ruble brothers patented their Rock Elevator & Separator in June of 1890(Plates 23-25).<sup>2</sup> One newspaper account indicates that in its first year of operation, the Rubles were able to mine enough gold to cover their initial investment in their claims, an estimated \$30,000 (McLane, personal communication). In subsequent years, their operation continued to prove lucrative. Among a host of other merits, the Ruble brothers claimed that "twice as much gravel and rock can be moved in a given space of time (through an elevator) and with a given amount of water, as can be moved by running the gravel and rock through a flume, in the same period of time and with the same water." (Oregon Mining Journal, 1897, p. 40). Larry McLane elaborates:

*Prior to the invention of the elevator, gold production ran from 185 ounces to around 200 ounces per season. With the elevator in place gold production better than tripled by 1894 and 1895, instead of a roughly 200 ounces per season they produced 629 ounces and 659 ounces, respectively; thus the yearly income went from roughly \$3,000 to around \$11,000 per year or at today's gold prices around \$250,000 (McLane, 1995).*

The Ruble's invention had a direct impact on the establishment of Golden. By the end of 1890, the elevator had proven sufficiently successful for both the Ruble brothers to relocate their families to Coyote Creek and Schuyler had married Abbie Smith.

## Secondary Period of Significance 1892-1920

### The Establishment of Golden

After relocating to Golden, William Ruble put Bill in charge of mining operations with his brother Schuyler as an assistant (McLane, 1995). The Rubles and their families immediately started building the town of Golden. In the meantime, Bill and his family lived with J.W. Smith up Coyote Creek from Golden. Schuyler and his family lived in a log cabin on the 'lower mine', closer to the Golden town site. In 1891, after clearing the land surrounding the Golden town site, Schuyler imported more than 50 goats to clean up the slash. The Rubles also planted fruit trees from the nursery William Ruble, Sr had near Salem during the same period. The church (Plate 15) was the first building they constructed. William, Sr., worked with his son Bill as carpenter, and many others, to complete the church in 1892. William, Sr., an ordained minister of Cambellite faith, held service in the church until Bill was ordained as a minister by Stephen Jewell of Grants Pass in 1893. After that, Bill took on the role of preacher and Schuyler served as the Sunday school superintendent.

The year 1894 was a milepost for Golden. The community had grown and needed a better road, in part because the old road ran through the mining site. In January of 1894, the County Commissioners granted a request to build a new road up Coyote Creek. In 1894, Schuyler and his family moved from a log cabin north of the Golden town site to a more permanent house. The attached log cabin was converted to a store.<sup>3</sup> In the same year, Bill Ruble completed construction of his residence, which still stands.

<sup>2</sup> The elevator, and associated mining terms are not used consistently in the literature. The elevator and associated term 'grizzly' are often linked with the use of hydraulic 'giants'. The Ruble Rock Elevator and Separator were constructed from wood and designed to facilitate moving and stacking larger material with hydraulic pressure. The Ruble Elevator featured a screen and was designed to speed the production of one hydraulic giant.

<sup>3</sup> Schuyler Ruble's residence and store was destroyed by fire in the mid-1990's.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** 8 **Page:** 5

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

---

**The Golden Mining Community**

It is estimated that the community of Golden comprised over 100 people during the mid-1890's. Many of these residents worked for the Rubles or leased their claims. The community served as a hub for miners in more distant areas as well. Although Golden was never incorporated, it did evolve into a community. In 1896, Schuyler Ruble was designated a postmaster. He operated the Golden Post Office out of his store. As the community grew, other noteworthy buildings followed. The Ruble family and others assisted Henry McIntosh in constructing a school, which was completed in 1897. On Sundays, the school housed the Methodist congregation (Plate 16), headed by the Reverend Mike Davis. Henry Gross operated a hotel out of his residence, which once stood south of Coyote Creek Road. Golden was also known to have a mayor and deputy marshal (see Plate 17 town layout).

In 1898, the Rubles operated three hydraulic giants night and day when water was available. After leasing a large portion of the lower mine, Bill and his family moved to Ashland to provide a better education for his children. Schuyler and his family left soon after for similar reasons. Schuyler sold his residence and store to his cousin, Columbus Bennett. William and Ruth Ruble, then residing at Golden, retired to their farm near Salem during the same time period.

Columbus Bennett served as deputy postmaster until designated postmaster in 1904. That same year, his new store was completed. In 1908 Myra McIntosh and her husband Henry purchased Bennett's property, and a year later they purchased the new store. At that time, Bill Ruble's family returned to Golden and stayed until 1910. By then, William, Sr., and Schuyler had passed away. The Ruble family sold their holdings to the Forsythes in 1911, though family and neighbors continued to use the property through leases. Golden functioned as a community after the Rubles left, but it didn't thrive. The mine was apparently still paying off.

In 1911 the Grants Pass commercial club reported:

*The William Ruble Placer Mining Claim is one of the larger and more successful historic placer operations in southern Oregon. "The Ruble mine comprises about 500 acres of patented land embracing about four miles along the creek. The gravel banks are from six to twenty feet high and easily yield to water under moderate pressure..." (1911:16)*

Despite positive reports about mining prospects in Golden, the school closed within a few years time and the Post Office followed on March 31, 1920, marking the end of the period of significance of the Golden Historic District.

**More About the Ruble Rock Elevator**

The significance of the Ruble Rock Elevator extends well beyond the role it played in the establishment of Golden. While other mining elevators were in operation throughout the west, they were not feasible for modest mining operations or the low fall conditions characteristic of Coyote Creek and many other mining sites. It is also unlikely that other designs were patented. The Ruble Rock Elevator satisfied a need plaguing other miners, and the Rubles saw the potential for development and sales. The Rubles marketed their design throughout the Northwest (Plate 26).

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** 8 **Page:** 6

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

---

In 1904, a mining publication reported that the Ruble brothers invented the Ruble Elevator and separator, or 'grizzly' after having encountered sufficient difficulties that it "almost looked as though much good ground would go unworked". The article adds, ". . .the Ruble Elevator is a device whose merit has been fully proven, which is amply attested by the eighteen or twenty grizzlies which are in use in the various districts of Southern Oregon." (Mineral Wealth, 1904:13) The Rubles entered a model of their patented design in the 1905 Lewis & Clark Exposition in Portland, Oregon. The design won a gold medal and additional recognition for the Rubles within the mining trade. Bill Ruble died in 1916 while on a trip to install a Ruble Elevator in Idaho and the marketing of the elevator abruptly ceased.

**More about the Rubles**

William Ruble, Sr. (Plate 11), was born in Virginia in 1823.<sup>4</sup> He was raised in Indiana where he later met and married his wife, Ruth Russel, in 1844. The Rubles are known to have nine children, though only Bill (Plate 12) and Schuyler appear to have been involved in the establishment of Golden. William Ruble immersed himself in a number of occupations throughout his life. He operated a sawmill and gristmill while in Indiana. After the mills were destroyed in a flood, the Rubles moved to Arkansas and established mills. Within a short time, he sold the mills for a profit. William Ruble and family traveled west to Oregon in 1853 along with his brother, who would found Waldport. Before arriving, William became an ordained minister. Upon arrival in Oregon, the family settled donation land claims in the Eola Hills, outside of Salem. William established another sawmill and a nursery business. He taught himself Greek and Hebrew during this period, which served as the impetus for two books he would write later in his life. By 1878, William was pursuing mining ventures on Coyote Creek. The two sons and their wives both raised large families at Golden. Several of their children married into families also linked to Coyote Creek history.

**Summary**

Unlike many southern Oregon mining settlements, the community of Golden did outlast its coveted mineral resources. Although abandoned as a community, its longstanding local popularity as a ghost town has enabled Golden to retain notable integrity of setting, association, feeling, and design. The historic relationship between mining activity and settlement preserved within the district is unique to Josephine County, and is one of the most outstanding examples of an intact town and mining area in Oregon. Collectively, the town and mining site provide an ideal context to relate the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century mining experience that shaped the history of southern Oregon and much of the West. With the unique historic associations and physical features of Golden, the Historic District merits distinction under Criteria A and B, for its association with the William Ruble, founder of the Golden community, and as one of Oregon's least disturbed gold mining sites and settlements.

---

<sup>4</sup> This section is adapted from First There Was Twogood, by Larry McLane.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** 9 **Page:** 1

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

**Bibliography**

Atwood, Kay. Josephine County Cultural and Historical Resource Survey. Josephine County Planning Department, 1983.

Brooks, Howard and Len Ramp. Gold and Silver in Oregon. State of Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, 1968.

Grants Pass Commercial Club. Mining in Josephine County. Grants Pass Commercial Club: Grants Pass, OR, circa 1911. Larry McLane Collection.

Helbock, Richard W. "Nineteenth Century Josephine County Post Offices". The Postal Historian. 1969, p.10.

Kramer, George. Cultural Resource Survey of the Coyote Creek Wetland Enhancement Project, Josephine County, Oregon. Eugene, Oregon: Heritage Research Associates, Inc., 1997.

McLane, Larry L. First There Was Twogood: A Pictorial History of Northern Josephine County. Sunny Valley, Oregon: Sexton Enterprises, 1985.

Mineral Wealth, Southern Oregon Edition. Redding, CA. Vol. 6, No. 10, August 1, 1904.

Oregon Mining Journal: Special Midsummer Addition. Grants Pass, 1897.

Ruble, Bernice E. Golden, Oregon and The Little White Church. Unpublished, 1950. Larry McLane Collection.

Walling, A.G. History of Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry, and Coos Counties. Portland: A.G. Walling, 1884.

Weis, Norman D. Ghost Towns of the Northwest. Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Printers, 1977: pp.67-73.

**Additional references**

Interviews with Larry McLane, November 1999.

Site visit with Alan Spencer, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Cultural Resource Manager. August 1998.

**From the collection of Larry McLane**

Jackson County Deed Records, Jackson County Courthouse.

Josephine County Deed Records, Josephine County Courthouse.

Jacksonville Democratic Times, 1887-1991, Josephine County Historical Society.

Jacksonville Oregon Sentinel, 1881-1884 & 1905-1913, Josephine County Historical Society.

Oregon Observer, 1892-1913, Josephine County Historical Society.

Oregon Sentinel, 1881-1884, Josephine County Historical Society.

Roseburg Plaindealer, 1870-1905, Josephine County Historical Society.



---

## 10. Geographical Data

---

Acreage of Property 98.61+ acres

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
1	<u>10</u>	<u>473295</u>	<u>4725680</u>	3	<u>10</u>	<u>471650</u>	<u>4724990</u>
2	<u>10</u>	<u>473295</u>	<u>4724975</u>	4	<u>10</u>	<u>471660</u>	<u>4725680</u>

☒ See continuation sheet.- U.S.G.S. Quad

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

---

## 11. Form Prepared By

---

name/title Shawna Adams-Jacobs

organization Golden Coyote Wetlands, Inc. date November 28, 2000

street & number PO Box 38 telephone (541) 682-2653 or 541-476-5906

city or town Wolf Creek, Oregon state OR zip code 97497

---

## Additional Documentation

---

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

### Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts.

### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

---

## Property Owner

---

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Multiple Owners, see attachment

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** 10 **Page:** 1

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

---

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The Golden Historic District is located in Section 19 of Township 33 South, Range 5 West of the Willamette Meridian, in the northeast corner of Josephine County, Oregon (see Site Map). The easternmost edge of the district crosses into Sections 20 and 29 of the same township and range. The district is comprised of two Tax Lots. The town site occupies the greater portion of Tax Lot 1200, totaling 5.43 acres. Tax Lot 800 represents the mining site, totaling 93.18 acres. The district includes that portion of the existing Coyote Creek roadway and proposed County roadway that transect and/or are contiguous with the two Tax Lots.

**Boundary Justification**

The Golden Historic District consists of the area generally recognized as Golden and the adjacent mining site, which is credited for the community's growth and retains evidence of the mining industry that supported its inhabitants. The district is located within the historic Jacobs and Kelly Gold Bearing Placer Mining Claim, patented in 1876, and the William Ruble Placer Mining Claim, patented in 1895. The Ruble family owned the entirety of both claims. The remaining historic buildings in Golden occupy a single Tax Lot, Tax Lot 1200, which was part of the Jacobs & Kelly Placer Mining Claim during the historic period. The majority of Tax Lot 1200 and all of its buildings are located north of Coyote Creek Road. Accordingly, the northern extent of Tax Lot 1200 serves as the northern Golden Historic District boundary. To the east and west of Tax Lot 1200, the northern boundary is marked by the north boundary of Tax Lot 800 or Coyote Creek Road, whichever is northernmost.

The Ruble mining operation included extensive portions of the Coyote Creek valley stretching three-to-four miles in length. Their holdings consisted of an area known as the 'upper mine' and a 'lower mine'. The Golden Historic District is located within the bounds of the lower mine, because it is the most closely associated historically with the Ruble mining operation, the Ruble family, the Ruble Rock Elevator, and the establishment of Golden. Tax Lot 800, in particular, is the only portion of the original Ruble Claims contiguous with the town site. For these reasons, the northern and southern limits conform to the boundaries of the William Ruble and Jacobs and Kelly Mining Claims, which also correspond with the bounds of Tax Lots 800 and 1200. The eastern and western limits of the mining site conform to bounds of Tax Lot 800. The westernmost limits of Tax Lot 800 correspond with the historic Jackson-Josephine County line and lot 58 of the original William Ruble Placer Mining Claim, patented in 1891. The portion of the original William Ruble Placer Mining Claim that lies east of the district is excluded because it is not contiguous with the town site and is now used for rural residential purposes. Those portions of Coyote Creek Road that are contiguous with Tax Lots 800 and 1200 are included within the district because road construction was associated with Golden and the adjacent mining activity.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** Owners **Page:** 1 **Golden Historic District, Josephine County,  
Oregon**

<b>Property Owner # 1</b>	<b>33-05-19, Tax Lot 800</b>	<b>I.D #1</b>
name <u>Josephine County</u>		
street & number <u>500 N.W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street</u>		telephone <u>(541) 474-5260</u>
city or town <u>Grants Pass</u>		state <u>OR</u> zip code <u>97526-2058</u>

<b>Property Owner # 2</b>	<b>33-5-19, Tax Lot 1200</b>	<b>I.D. #2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e &amp; part of 1</b>
name <u>Golden Coyote Wetlands, Inc.</u>		
street & number <u>P.O. Box 38</u>		telephone <u>N/A</u>
city or town <u>Wolf Creek</u>		state <u>OR</u> zip code <u>97497</u>

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** Photos **Page:** 2 total *Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

---

**Photographer:** Alan C. Spencer

**Location of Negatives:** Natural Resources Conservation Service  
101 SW Main, Suite 1300  
Portland, OR 97204  
(503) 414-3204

These are the plates as cited in sections 7 and 8. Representative black-and-white photographs are included separately. All photographs taken September 5-7, 2000 unless otherwise noted. Digital color photographs are also available upon request.

Plate 1. Bill Ruble home, looking west.

Plate 2. Bill Ruble home, looking southwest. Note damage.

Plate 3. Front elevation of church, looking north.

Plate 4. Church looking southwest from relic orchard.

Plate 5. Detail of diamond shingle motif on front of façade, looking north.

Plate 6. Detail of doors with scale, looking north.

Plate 7. Detail of church interior, view from pulpit.

Plate 8. Interior of church, ca. 1906-1920. McLane (1995: 306).

Plate 9. Grain bin looking north, northeast.

Plate 10. Former post office and Bennett store, looking north.

Plate 11. William Ruble, Sr. McLane (1995: 303)

Plate 12. William "Bill" Ruble. McLane (1995:303)

Plate 13. Golden ca. 1906.

Plate 14. Golden ca. 1910.

Plate 15. Golden Church ca. 1906. McLane (1995: 304)

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section Number:** Photos **Page:** 2 total

*Golden Historic District, Josephine County, Oregon*

---

Plate 16. Methodist Church at old school.

Plate 17. Map of Golden from 1892-1908. McLane (1995: 302).

Plate 18. Ruble elevator.

Plate 19. Bill and Sarah Ruble with gazebo.

Plate 20. Yellow house.

Plate 21. Schyuler Ruble Store.

Plate 22. Bennett Store.

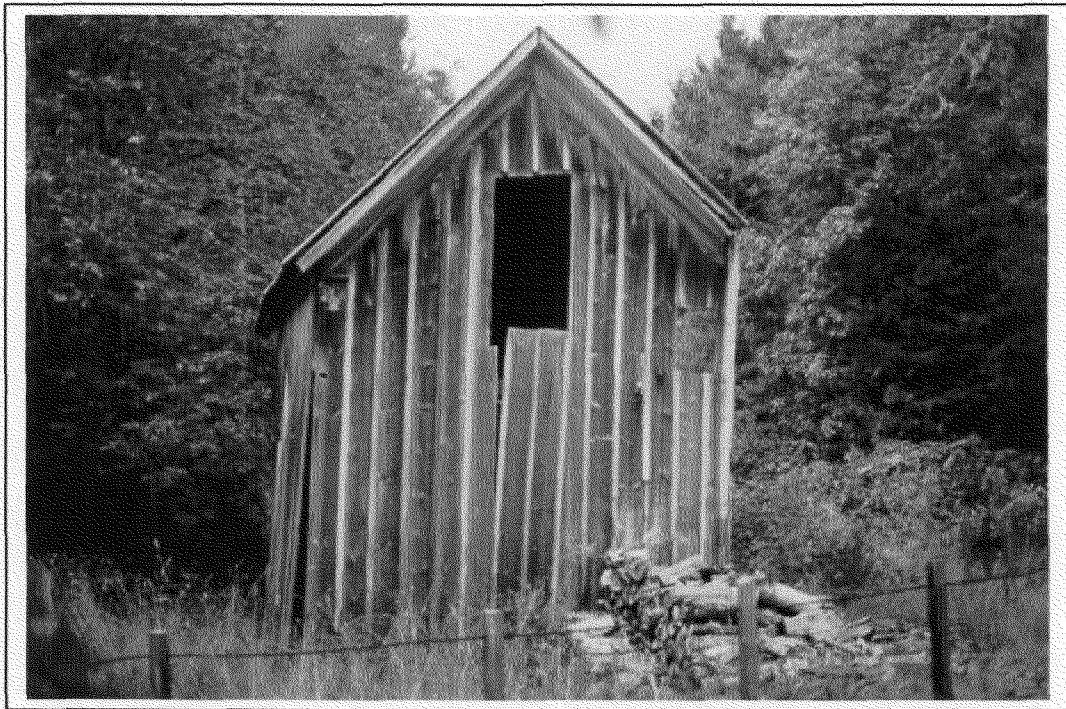


Plate 1. Bill Ruble home, looking west.

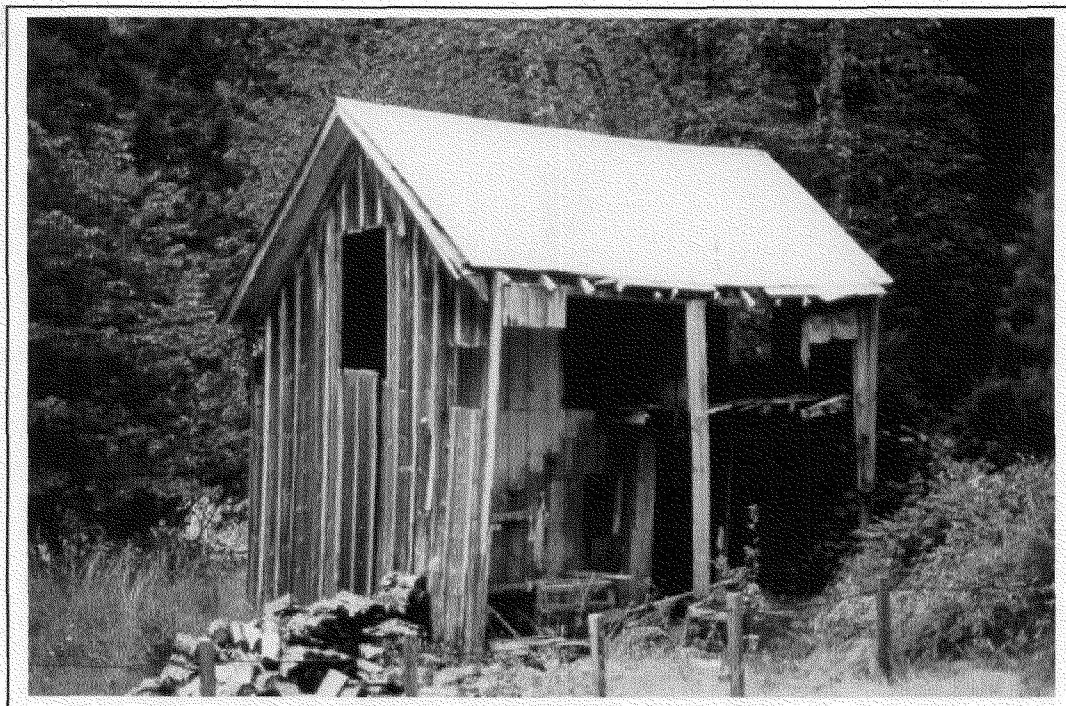


Plate 2. Bill Ruble home. Note extensive damage to north side.

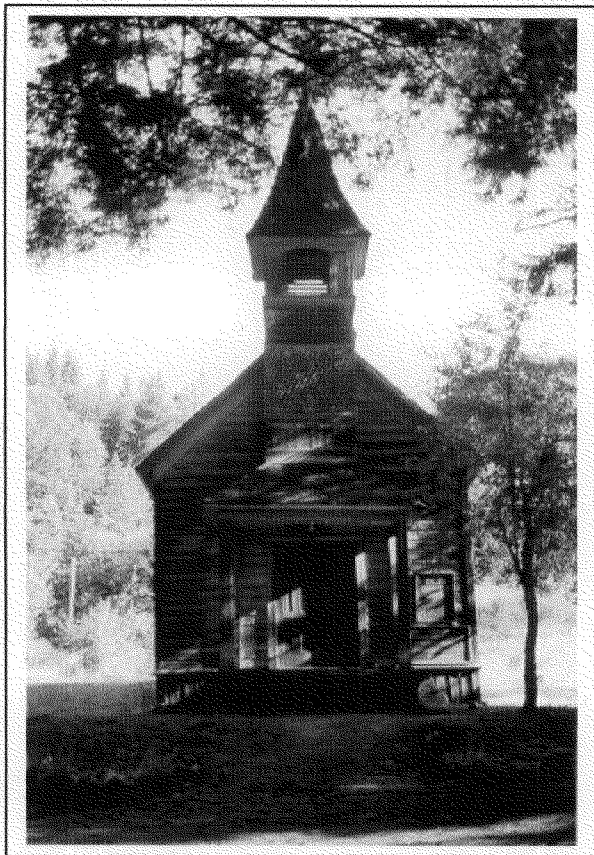


Plate 3 Front elevation of church.

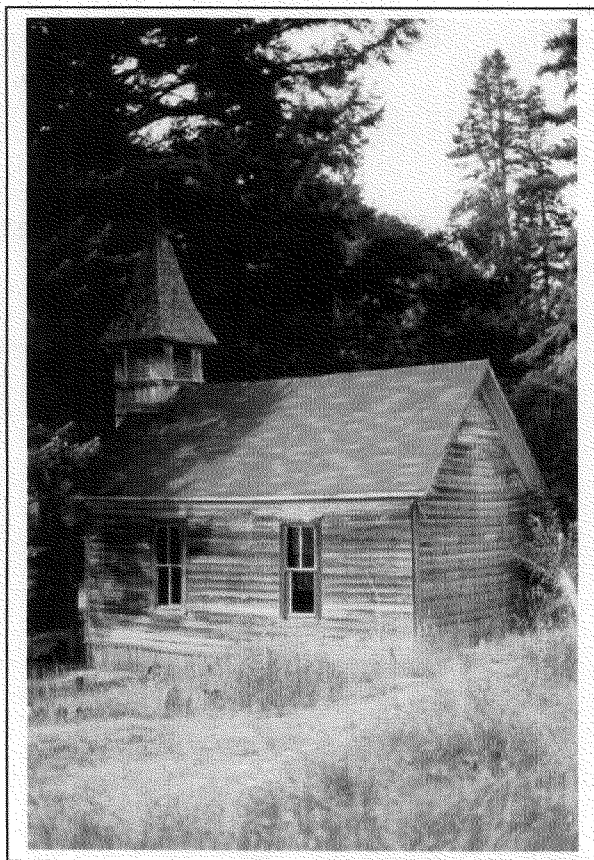


Plate 4 Church looking southwest.



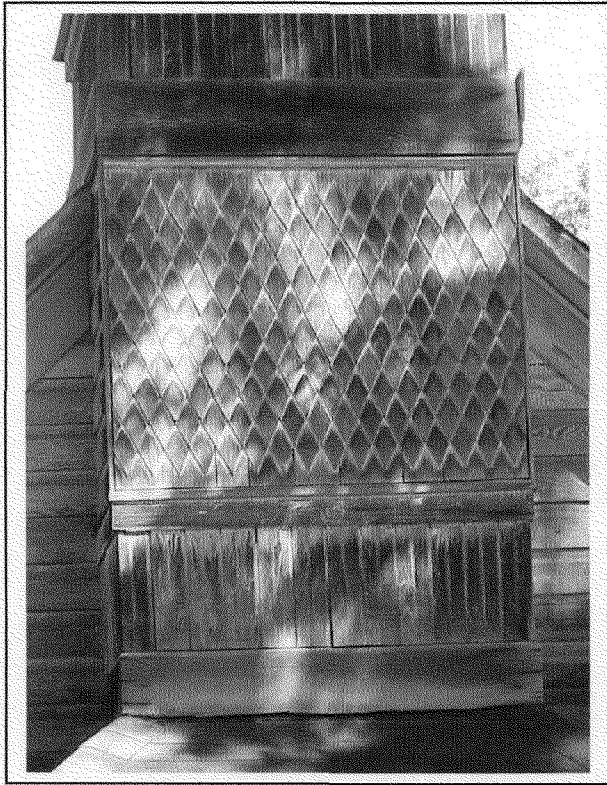


Plate 5. Detail of diamond shingle motif on front facade.

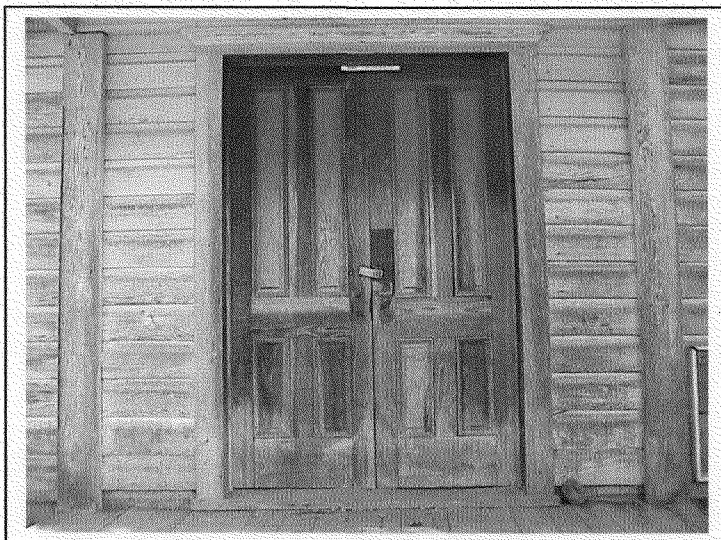


Plate 6. Detail of doors with scale.



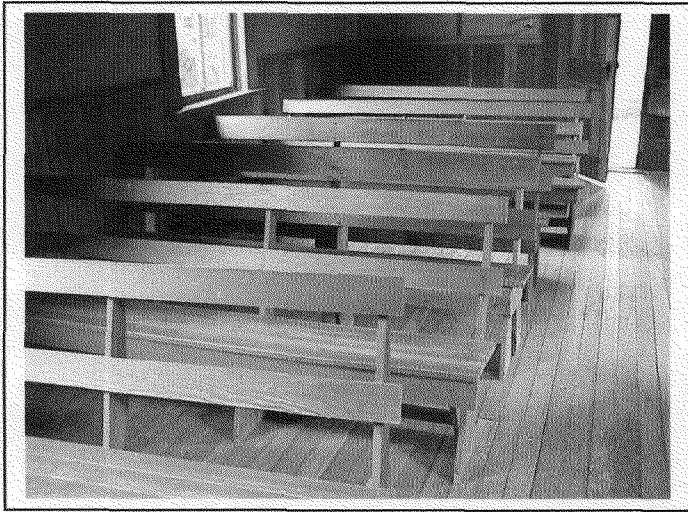


Plate 7. Detail of church interior.

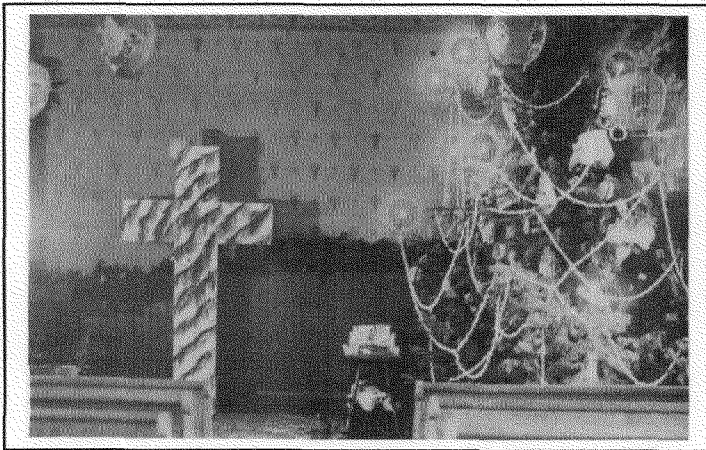


Plate 8 Interior of Golden Church sometime between 1906 and 1920. View is looking north towards pulpit. Contrast with plate 10. Note lack of raised platform and use of wallpaper above wainscot. McLane (1995: 306). Used with permission.

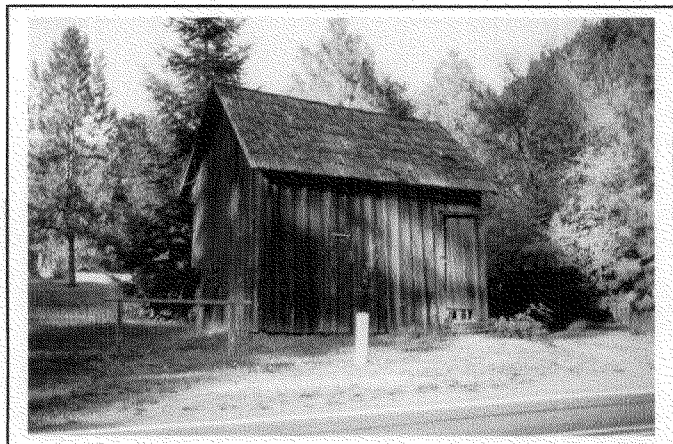


Plate 9. Grain bin looking north.



Plate 10. Former post office and general store, looking north.

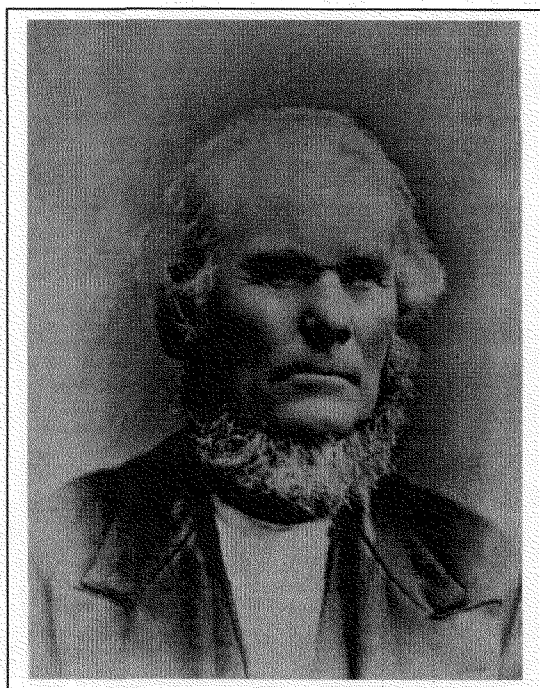


Plate 11. William Ruble, Sr., first pastor of Golden Church and prominent founder of Golden. McLane (1995: 303). Used with permission.

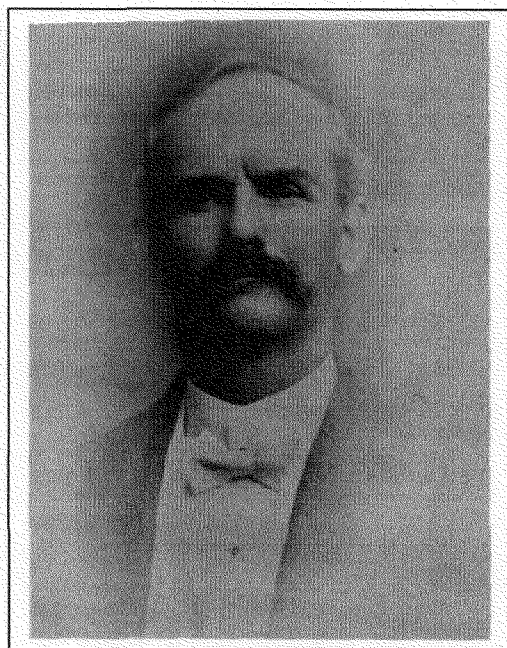


Plate 12. William "Bill" Ruble. Builder and Pastor of the Golden Church, son of William Ruble, Sr. McLane (1995: 303). Used with permission.

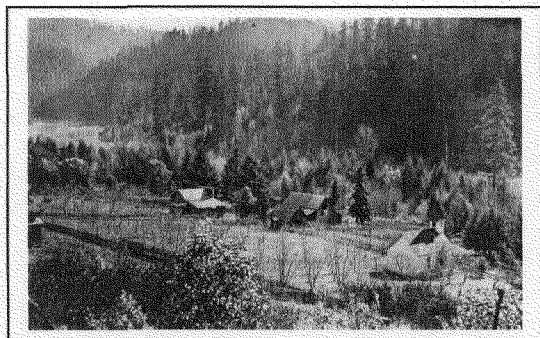


Plate 13. Golden as it appeared in 1906. Photo courtesy of Larry McLane.

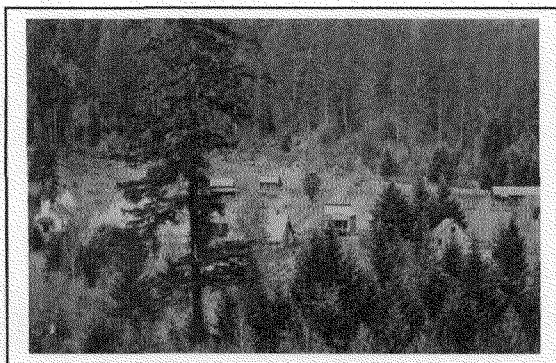


Plate 14. Golden ca. 1910 looking north across Coyote Creek. Church is in far-left center of photograph. McLane (1995: 304). Used with permission.



Plate 15. Golden church as it appeared ca. 1906. Note Bill Ruble home in background. McLane (1995:304). Used with permission.





Plate 16. Methodist Church at old school. Used with permission, McLane 1995: 306.

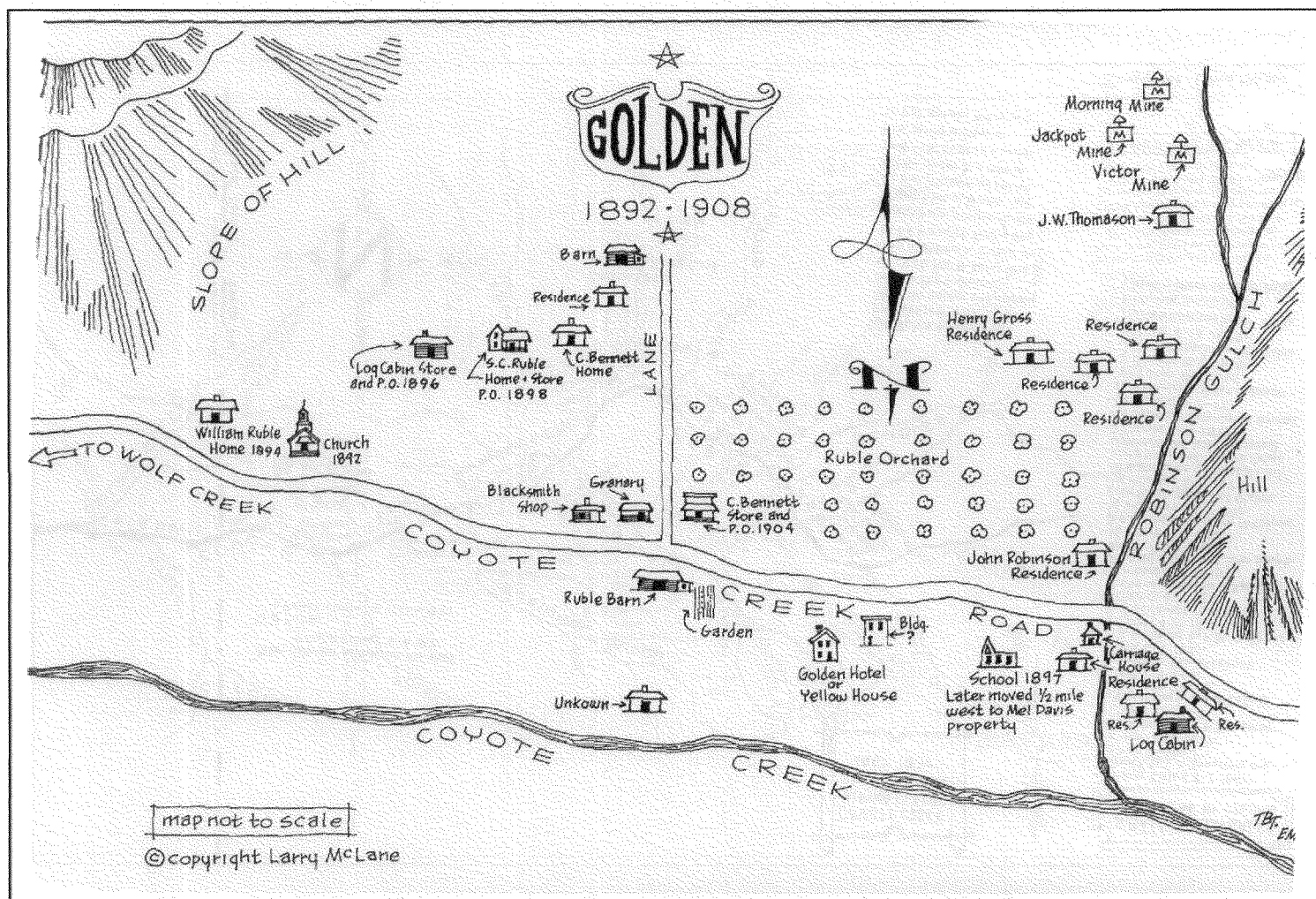


Plate 17. Map of Golden from 1892 – 1908. McLane (1995: 302). Used with permission.



Plate 18. Ruble Elevator. Used with permission from McLane 1995: 324)

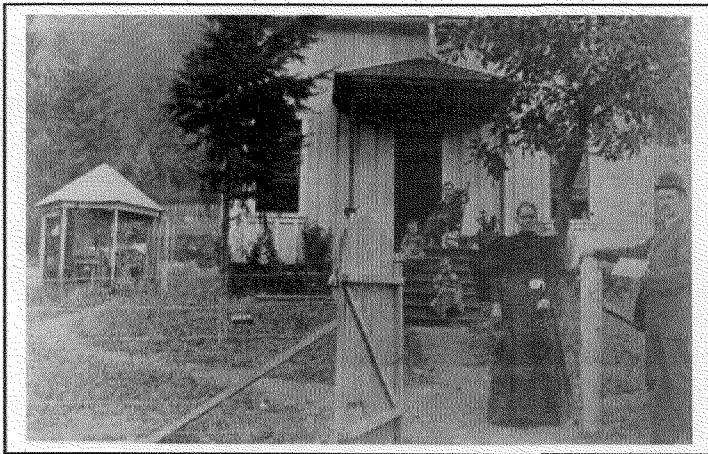


Plate 19. Bill and Sarah Ruble with gazebo. Used with permission, from McLane 1995:304.



Plate 20. Yellow house, built in 1895.  
Used with permission, McLane 1995:  
305.

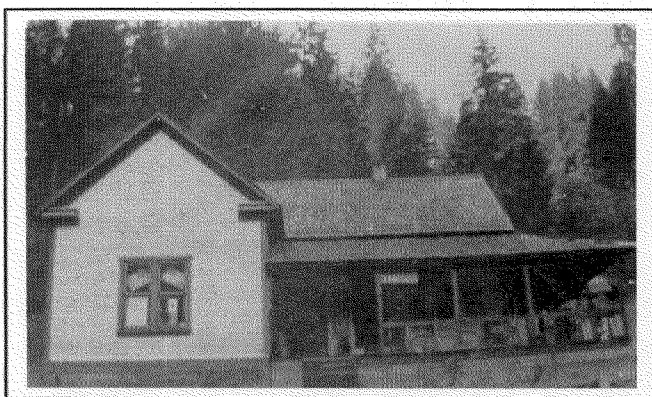


Plate 21. Schuyler Ruble store built  
1894. Used with permission, McLane  
1995:305.

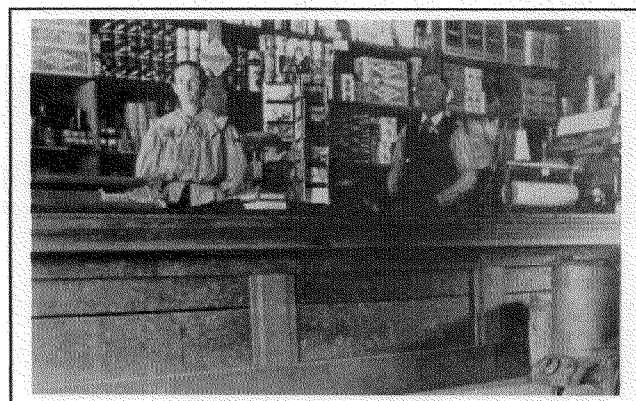


Plate 22. Bennett store, built in  
1904. Used with permission,  
McLane 1995:305









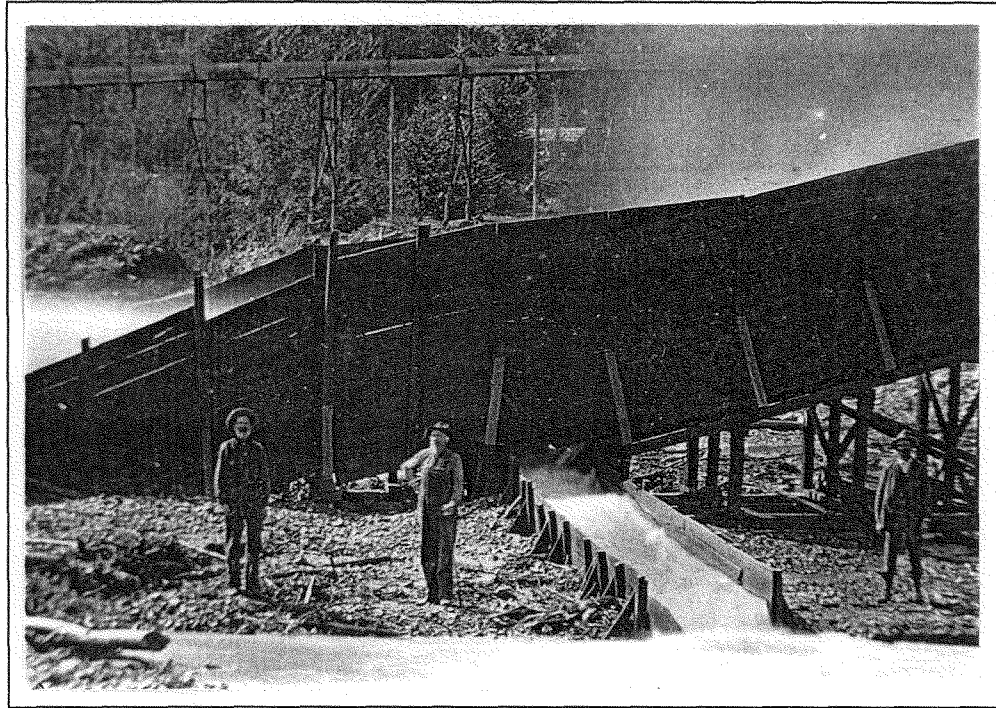


Plate 23. Ruble Rock Elevator.  
Used with permission, McLane.

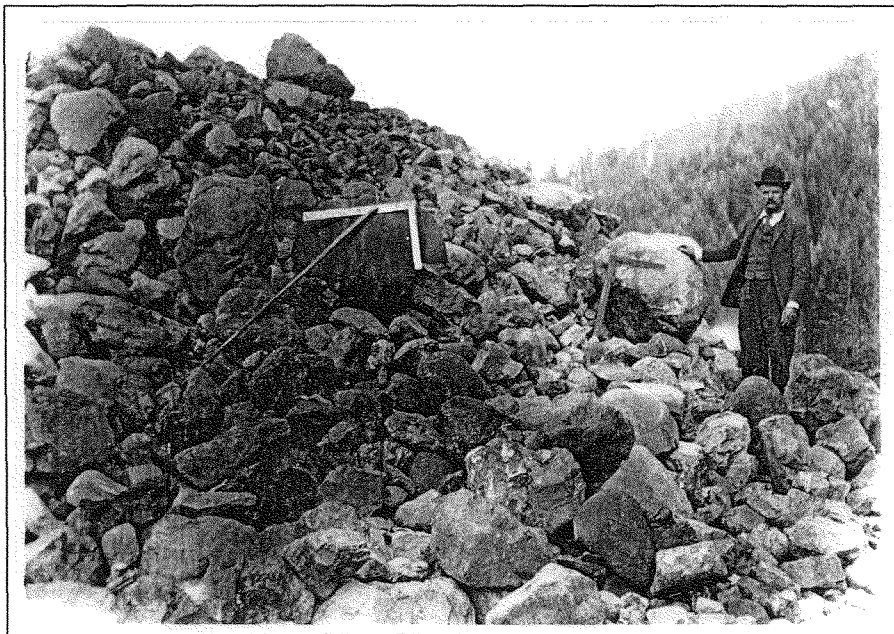


Plate 24. Bill Ruble with 2-foot measure showing the size of  
boulder that could be stacked with the Ruble Rock Elevator.  
Used with permission, McLane.



Plate 25. Ruble Rock Elevator in use.  
Used with permission,  
McLane.

**THE MODERN GRAVEL ELEVATOR**

**It Embraces in a Concise and Inexpensive Form:**

- The Elevator, the Grizzly, the Undercurrent and Sluice-boxes. The whole being movable.
- It obviates the use of long lines of tailing sluice-boxes.
- It decreases the water supply 50 per cent.
- It economizes in pipe line expense at least one-half.
- It decreases labor expenses 50 per cent and over.
- It restrains all tailings.
- It never clogs.
- It elevates logs, stumps and roots of ordinary dimensions to boulder dump.
- It saves all gold at once.

Catalogue furnished on application.  
Address C. E. BROWN, Gen'l Agt., Golden, Josephine County, Oregon

Plate 26. Advertisement for the Ruble Elevator as it appeared in the Oregon Observer newspaper, November 4, 1898. Used with permission, McLane.